



NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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2019 POTATOES ANNUAL SUMMARY

Colorado potato growers produced an estimated 19.67 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, down 9 percent from last year's crop. Fall potatoes produced in the San Luis Valley totaled 18.39 million hundredweight compared with 20.12 million hundredweight produced last year. Fall potatoes grown in all other areas in Colorado totaled 1.27 million hundredweight compared with 1.60 million hundredweight last year. Average yield, at 386 hundredweight per acre, decreased 9 hundredweight per acre from the combined yield attained last year. The harvested area, estimated at 51,000 acres is down from the 55,000 acres harvested last year.

The total value of production of the 19.67 million cwt totaled \$239.9 million, up 8 percent over the previous year. Value of sales was also up 4 percent to \$211.7 million. Price per hundredweight was \$12.20.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All potato production in 2019 totaled 424 million cwt, down 2 percent from the 2018 crop for comparable States. Harvested area, at 937,300 acres, was down 1 percent from 2018 crop for comparable States. The average yield of 453 cwt per acre was down 1 cwt from the previous year for comparable States.

The value of all potatoes sold in 2019, at \$3.94 billion, increased 11 percent from the previous year for comparable States. The average price, at \$9.94 per cwt, was up \$1.16 from 2018 for comparable States. The quantity of potatoes sold from the 2019 crop totaled 395 million cwt, down 2 percent from 2018 for comparable States. Quantity sold accounted for 93 percent of 2019 production, unchanged from the previous year for comparable States.

Growers from the 13 estimating States sold 276 million cwt of raw potatoes to processors from the 2019 crop. Table stock sales totaled 97.9 million cwt. Seed sales of 19.7 million cwt for 2019. Sales for livestock feed, at 1.53 million cwt for 2019.

Shrinkage and loss was estimated at 25.0 million cwt for 2019, up slightly from 2018 for comparable states. Growers kept 4.61 million cwt for seed, livestock feed, and home use on their own farms, up 22 percent from 2018 for comparable States.

United States potatoes used for processing totaled 283 million cwt, down 5 percent from 2018. Potatoes used for chips and shoestrings totaled 59.6 million cwt, down 5 percent from the previous year. Frozen french fries and other frozen products utilized 174 million cwt of raw potatoes, down 3 percent from 2018. Potatoes used for dehydrating totaled 41.6 million cwt, down 15 percent from 2018. Canning use, at 1.73 million cwt, was down 7 percent from the previous year. Other products made from potatoes utilized 6.03 million cwt of potatoes, a 9 percent increase from 2018.

Beginning in 2019, seasonal breakouts of potato estimates were discontinued. Only all potato estimates will be published. Also estimates for Alaska, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina and Virginia were discontinued.

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